(b) if so, the details of such taxes togetherwith the rates at which these taxes are charged; and

(c) the items of raw-material used for production of chemicals fertilizers which are imported togetherwith the rates at which import tax is charged thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) and (b) No Excise Duty is levied on fertilizers. However, State Governments Levy Sale Tax and other taxes on fertilizers and inputs used in the manufacturing of fertilizers. Rates of these taxes vary from State to State and from time to time.

(c) The major raw materials imported for production of fertilizers are phosphoric acid, ammonia, rock phosphate and sulphur. Custom Duty at the rate of 5% is presently levied on import of these raw materials. In addition, special additional duty at the rate of 4.2% is also being levied on import of rock phosphate and sulphur *w.e.f.* 1.4.2002.

Power consumption by fertilizer units

†1064. SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to formulate some rules governing consumption of power by fertilizer units;

(b) if so, whether Government have taken any steps in this regard so far; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) to (c) A Committee was constituted to examine the issue of disallowance in capacity of captive power plant and steam generation plant for retention price purposes. The Committee has recently submitted its report which is under examination.

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.